

## A BASIC CONSTRUCTION IN DUALS OF SEPARABLE BANACH SPACES

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ABSTRACT. A basic construction of the Cantor set  $\Delta$  in the dual of a separable Banach space  $X$  is presented. If  $X^*$  is nonseparable, a modification of this construction yields bounded  $\varepsilon$ -trees in  $X^*$  (Stegall). A continuous linear surjection from  $X$  to  $C(\Delta)$  is obtained if  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$  (Pelczynski) by a further modification of this construction. Through it the delicate nature of the difference between the cases (i)  $X^*$  is nonseparable and (ii)  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$  is highlighted.

**A. Introduction.** Let  $\Delta^0$  denote the usual Cantor set with dyadic partitions  $(C_{ni}^0 : i = 1, \dots, 2^n)_{n=0}^\infty$  and Haar measure  $\lambda^0$  (where  $\lambda^0(C_{ni}^0) = 2^{-n}$  for all  $i$  and  $n$ ). Let  $\lambda_{ni}^0(\cdot) = 2^n \lambda^0((\cdot) \cap C_{ni}^0)$ .

Now let  $\Delta$  denote the natural copy of  $\Delta^0$  in  $C(\Delta^0)^*$ , the points of  $\Delta$  corresponding to point-masses on  $C(\Delta^0)$ . Let  $\lambda_{ni}$  denote  $\lambda_{ni}^0$  as a measure on  $\Delta$ . We think of  $\lambda_{ni}^0$  in  $C(\Delta^0)^*$  as the barycenter of the measure  $\lambda_{ni}$  on  $\Delta$ . Note that the  $\lambda_{ni}^0$ 's form a bounded  $\varepsilon$ -tree, with  $\varepsilon = 2$ , as  $\lambda_{ni}^0 = (1/2)(\lambda_{n+12i-1}^0 + \lambda_{n+1,2i}^0)$  and  $\|\lambda_{n+1,2i-1}^0 - \lambda_{n+1,2i}^0\| = 2$ .

Now suppose  $X$  is a separable Banach space and  $X^*$  is nonseparable. Then it is easy (see Corollary 2 below) to construct a topological copy of  $\Delta$  in  $(B^*, \text{weak}^*)$  which is norm discrete (and conversely the existence of such a set obviously implies  $X^*$  is nonseparable). C. Stegall [7] showed how to construct such a  $\Delta$  and corresponding dyadic partitions  $(C_{ni})$ , with Haar measure  $\lambda$ , so that the barycenters  $x_{ni}^*$  of the measures  $\lambda_{ni}(\cdot) = 2^n \lambda((\cdot) \cap C_{ni})$  on  $\Delta$  form a bounded  $\varepsilon$ -tree in  $X^*$ .

On the other hand, the Pelczynski–Hagler theorem states that  $\ell^1$  embeds in a separable Banach space  $X$  if and only if there exists a continuous linear surjection from  $X$  to  $C(\Delta^0)$  [3, 4]. In this paper a basic construction is presented which obtains these two results and highlights the delicate differences between them.

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This work forms part of the author's Ph.D. thesis at the Pennsylvania State University.

Received by the editors on March 27, 1986.

Basically our notation follows that of [2]. Throughout,  $X$  is a separable Banach space and  $X^*, X^{**}, \dots$  the successive duals of  $X$ . Let  $B, B^*, \dots$  be the closed unit ball of  $X, X^*, \dots$ . We say that a Banach space  $Y$  embeds in a Banach space  $X$  (or equivalently  $X$  contains a copy of  $Y$ ) if there exists an isomorphism from  $Y$  into  $X$ .

A sequence  $(x_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{2^n}$  in  $X$  is called a *tree* if  $x_{ni} = (1/2)(x_{n+1,2i-1} + x_{n+1,2i})$  for all  $n, i$ . If we also have that  $\|x_{n+1,2i-1} - x_{n+1,2i}\| > \varepsilon$  for some positive  $\varepsilon$  and for all  $n, i$ , then  $(x_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{2^n}$  is called an  $\varepsilon$ -*tree*. An  $\varepsilon$ -*Rademacher tree* (Riddle, Uhl [5]) is a tree such that  $\|\sum_{i=1}^{2^n} (-1)^i x_{ni}\| \geq 2^n \varepsilon$  for every  $n$ .

**B. The basic construction.** The following is a standard result from topology. Its proof is the core of the constructions in this paper.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $A$  be an uncountable subset of a compact metric space  $M$ . Then  $\bar{A}$ , the closure of  $A$  in  $M$ , contains a subset  $\Delta$  homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\rho$  be the metric on  $M$  and  $B(x, \alpha) = \{y \in M : \rho(x, y) < \alpha\}$ . As  $M$  is second countable, all but countably many points of any uncountable subset are condensation points. We build by induction on  $n$ , a sequence  $(A_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{2^n}$ , of subsets of  $A$  with the following properties for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, i = 1, \dots, 2^n$ :

- (i)  $A_{n+1,2i-1} \cup A_{n+1,2i} \subseteq A_{n,i}$ .
- (ii) For fixed  $n$ ,  $\overline{A_{ni}} \cap \overline{A_{nj}} = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j$ .
- (iii) The diameter of  $\overline{A_{ni}} < 2^{-n}$ .
- (iv) Each  $A_{ni}$  is uncountable.

Then having done so it is clear that  $\Delta = \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} \bigcup_{i=1}^{2^n} \overline{A_{ni}}$  is homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$  with  $C_{ni} = \Delta \cap \overline{A_{ni}}$  homeomorphic to the dyadic intervals.

Let  $x_{01}$  be a condensation point of  $A$  and let  $A_{01} = A \cap B(x_{01}, 1)$ .

Now suppose the construction has been made for all  $n, i$  for  $n = 0, \dots, m$ . Choose  $x_{m+1,2i-1}, x_{m+1,2i}$  to be weak\* condensation points of  $A_{mi}$ . As  $M$  is a metric space we can easily find neighborhoods  $U_{m+1,2i-1}$  of  $x_{m+1,2i-1}$  and  $U_{m+1,2i}$  of  $x_{m+1,2i}$  so that  $\overline{U_{m+1,2i-1}} \cap$

$\overline{U_{m+1,2i}} = \phi$ . Then define

$$\begin{aligned} A_{m+1,2i-1} &= A_{mi} \cap B(x_{m+1,2i-1}, 2^{-m+1}) \cap U_{m+1,2i-1} \\ A_{m+1,2i} &= A_{mi} \cap B(x_{m+1,2i}, 2^{-m+1}) \cap U_{m+1,2i}. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that these subsets indeed satisfy (i) through (iv) above.  $\square$

An immediate consequence of the above lemma is that  $B^*$  contains a subset weak\* homeomorphic to the Cantor set whenever  $X$  is a separable Banach space. In fact, the main results of this chapter are obtained by judiciously selecting an uncountable set  $A$  in  $B^*$  and more carefully constructing copies of  $\Delta^0$  in  $\bar{A}$  as in Lemma 1. For instance, one can easily show the following. (We prove a stronger result in the next section.)

**Corollary 2.** *If  $X$  is a separable Banach space such that  $X^*$  is nonseparable, then there is a norm discrete subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$  that is weak\* homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$ .*

*Notation.* Let  $W(x^*; x, \varepsilon) = \{y^* \in X^* : |x^*(x) - y^*(x)| < \varepsilon\}$ . If  $A$  is a subset of  $X^*$ , let  $\bar{A}$  denote the weak\* closure of  $A$ . Clearly, if  $A \subset W(x^*; x, \varepsilon)$  and  $z^* \in \bar{A}$ , then  $|z^*(x) - x^*(x)| \leq \varepsilon$ .

**C. The case when  $X^*$  is nonseparable.** In this section we considerably simplify the published proofs of Stegall's theorem [7, 2]. We still need the following lemma from [7].

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $Y$  be a nonseparable Banach space and let  $\omega_1$  be the first uncountable ordinal number. Then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exist sets  $\{y_\alpha : \alpha < \omega_1\}$  in  $Y$  and  $\{y_\alpha^* : \alpha < \omega_1\}$  in  $Y^*$  such that for all  $\alpha, \beta < \omega_1$ ,  $\|y_\alpha\| = 1$ ,  $\|y_\alpha^*\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and*

$$y_\beta^*(y_\alpha) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \alpha < \beta \\ 1 & \text{if } \alpha = \beta. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Choose  $y_1 \in Y$  and  $y_1^* \in Y^*$  such that  $\|y_1\| = \|y_1^*\| = y_1^*(y_1) = 1$ . Let  $\beta < \omega_1$ . Assume that we have made the construction

for all  $\alpha < \beta$ . Since  $\{y_\alpha : \alpha < \beta\}$  spans a separable subspace of the nonseparable space  $Y$ , there exists a  $y_\beta^* \in Y^*$  such that  $y_\beta^*(y_\alpha) = 0$  for all  $\alpha < \beta$  and  $\|y_\beta^*\| = 1 + \varepsilon/2$ . Then choose  $y_\beta \in Y$  such that  $\|y_\beta\| = 1 = y_\beta^*(y_\beta)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** (Stegall [7]). *Let  $X$  be a separable Banach space such that  $X^*$  is nonseparable. Then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$  which is weak\* homeomorphic to the Cantor set, along with subsets  $(C_{ni})_{n=0}^\infty$  of  $\Delta$  weak\* homeomorphic to the dyadic intervals, and a sequence  $\{x_{ni}\}_{n=0}^\infty$  in  $X$  such that  $\|x_{ni}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  for all  $n, i$  and*

$$|x^*(x_{ni}) - \chi_{C_{ni}}(x^*)| \leq \varepsilon 2^{-n} \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \Delta.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. Use Lemma 3 to find sets  $A = \{x_\alpha^* : \alpha < \omega_1\}$  in  $X^*$  and  $\{x_\alpha^{**} : \alpha < \omega_1\}$  in  $X^{**}$  such that  $\|x_\alpha^*\| = 1$ ,  $\|x_\alpha^{**}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and

$$x_\beta^{**}(x_\alpha^*) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \alpha < \beta \\ 1 & \text{if } \alpha = \beta. \end{cases}$$

*Claim.* If  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are uncountable disjoint subsets of  $A$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , then for every  $\eta > 0$  there exist uncountable sets  $A'_i \subset A_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) and a point  $x_j$  in  $X$  with  $\|x_j\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and such that

$$|x^*(x_j) - \chi_{A'_i}(x^*)| < \eta \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \bigcup_{i=1}^n A'_i.$$

To prove the claim, fix  $j$  and for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , let  $x_{\beta_i}^*$  be a weak\* condensation point of  $A_i$ , such that  $\beta_j > \beta_i$  if  $i \neq j$ . Then  $\|x_{\beta_j}^{**}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and  $x_{\beta_j}^{**}(x_{\beta_i}^*) = \delta_{ij}$ . By the weak\* density of  $B$  in  $B^{**}$ , choose  $x_j$  in  $X$  with  $\|x_j\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and  $|x_j(x_{\beta_i}^*) - x_{\beta_j}^{**}(x_{\beta_i}^*)| < \eta/2$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). Let

$$A'_i = A_i \cap W(x_{\beta_i}^*; x_j, \eta/2).$$

This proves the claim.

To prove the theorem, apply the construction of Lemma 1 to  $A$  with the following change. At each stage, where  $A_{n1}, \dots, A_{n2^n}$  have been chosen, inductively apply the above claim  $2^n$  times to choose  $x_{ni}$  and

uncountable  $B_{ni} \subset A_{ni}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 2^n$ ) with  $\|x_{ni}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and such that for each  $i$

$$|x^*(x_{ni}) - \chi_{B_{ni}}(x^*)| < \varepsilon 2^{-n} \quad \text{for all } x^* \text{ in } \bigcup_{j=1}^{2^n} B_{nj}.$$

Then replace each  $A_{ni}$  by  $B_{ni}$  and continue the construction.  $\square$

Let  $\Delta$  and  $(C_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be as constructed in the above theorem (for a given  $\varepsilon$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < 1/4$ ). Since  $\Delta$  is weak\* homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$ , the natural evaluation map  $T : X \rightarrow C(\Delta^0)$  given by  $T(x)(x^*) = x^*(x)$  is a continuous linear operator. Also, having a sequence  $(x_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty}$  in  $X$  which approximates  $(\chi_{C_{ni}})_{n=0}^{\infty}$ , it is easy to see that  $T$  maps  $X$  onto a dense subspace of  $C(\Delta^0)$ . In general, however,  $T$  cannot map  $X$  onto all of  $C(\Delta^0)$ , for this would imply  $X$  contains  $\ell^1$  as the remarks at the beginning of this chapter indicated. We would like to be able to say that this evaluation mapping has some property that characterizes separable spaces  $X$  with nonseparable duals. Of course, the first thing that comes to mind is that  $T$  maps  $X$  onto a dense subspace of  $C(\Delta^0)$ . However, this does not characterize separable spaces with nonseparable duals as the following example shows.

**Example 5.** Define  $T : \ell^2 \rightarrow C(\Delta^0)$  by  $T((\alpha_n)) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/n)\alpha_n t^n$ . As the range of  $T$  clearly contains the polynomials, it is dense in  $C(\Delta^0)$ . Clearly though,  $(\ell^2)^* = \ell^2$  is separable.

Now consider the adjoint of  $T$ ,  $T^* : C(\Delta^0)^* \rightarrow X^*$ . Let  $\lambda_{ni}^0$  be defined as before  $(\lambda_{ni}^0(\cdot) = 2^n \lambda^0(\cdot) \cap C_{ni})$  where  $\lambda^0$  is then Haar measure on  $\Delta^0$ . Let  $x_{ni}^* = T^*(\lambda_{ni}^0)$ . Clearly,  $(x_{ni}^*)$  forms a bounded tree in  $X^*$ . In fact, since  $0 < \varepsilon < 1/4$ ,  $(x_{ni}^*)$  forms a bounded  $2/5$ -tree in  $X^*$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1,2i-1}^* - x_{n+1,2i}^*\| &= \sup_{x \in B} |x_{n+1,2i-1}^*(x) - x_{n+1,2i}^*(x)| \\ &\geq \frac{4}{5} |x_{n+1,2i-1}^*(x_{n+1,2i-1}) - x_{n+1,2i}^*(x_{n+1,2i-1})| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{4}{5} |T^*(\lambda_{n+1,2i-1}^0 - \lambda_{n+1,2i}^0)(x_{n+1,2i-1})| \\
&= \frac{4}{5} \left| \int_{\Delta} x^*(x_{n+1,2i-1}) d\lambda_{n+1,2i-1} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \int_{\Delta} x^*(x_{n+1,2i-1}) d\lambda_{n+1,2i} \right| \\
&\geq \frac{4}{5} \left| \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \right| = \frac{2}{5}.
\end{aligned}$$

Let us summarize as follows.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $X$  be a separable Banach space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X^*$  is nonseparable.
- (ii) For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$  that is weak\* homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$  and a sequence  $(x_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{2^n}$  in  $X$  with  $\|x_{ni}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  such that

$$|x^*(x_{ni}) - \chi_{C_{ni}}(x^*)| < \varepsilon 2^{-n} \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \Delta,$$

where the  $C_{ni}$ 's are homeomorphic to the dyadic intervals. Hence, there exists a  $\delta > 0$  and a continuous linear operator  $T : X \rightarrow C(\Delta^0)$  such that  $T^*(C(\Delta^0)^*)$  contains a bounded  $\delta$ -tree.

- (iii) There exists for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  a subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$ , weak\* homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$  such that for every  $x^* \in \Delta^0$ , there is an  $x^{**}$  in  $X^{**}$  with  $\|x^{**}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  such that  $x^{**}(x^*) = 1$  and  $x^{**}(y^*) = 0$  for all  $y^* \in \Delta$ ,  $y^* \neq x^*$ .

- (iv) There exists a subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$  that is weak\* homeomorphic to  $\Delta^0$ , but is discrete in the weak topology.

*Proof.* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). See Theorem 4 and the remarks following its proof.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and let  $\Delta$  be the copy of  $\Delta^0$  satisfying the conditions of (ii). Let  $x^*$  be in  $\Delta$ , and let  $(i_n)$  be the unique sequence such that  $x^* \in A_{ni_n}$ . Let  $x^{**}$  be any weak\* cluster point in  $X^{**}$  of the sequence  $\{x_{ni_n}\}$ . Then  $\|x^{**}\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  and, since  $|x^*(x_{ni_n}) - 1| < \varepsilon 2^{-n}$ , the sequence  $x^*(x_{ni_n})$  converges to 1 but clusters at  $x^{**}(x^*)$ . Consequently,  $x^{**}(x^*) = 1$ . Now if  $y^* \in \Delta$  but  $y^* \neq x^*$ ,

then, for some  $N$ , if  $n \geq N$  then  $y^*$  is not in  $A_{ni_n}$ . Therefore,  $|y^*(x_{ni_n})| < \varepsilon 2^{-n}$  for  $n \geq N$  and clearly  $x^{**}(y^*) = 0$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv). For any fixed  $x^* \in \Delta$ , let  $x^{**}$  be as in (iii). Then  $\{x^*\} = \Delta \cap \{y^* : x^{**}(y^*) > 0\}$ , so  $\{x^*\}$  is weak open in  $\Delta$ .

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). As  $\Delta$  is uncountable and weak discrete it is also norm discrete and, consequently,  $X^*$  is nonseparable.  $\square$

**D. The case when  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$ .** The Pelczynski–Hagler theorem states that a separable Banach space  $X$  contains a copy of  $\ell^1$  if and only if there is a continuous linear surjection from  $X$  to  $C(\Delta^0)$ . The standard proof of this uses the following fact [4].

**Theorem** (Pelczynski). *If a separable Banach space  $Z$  contains a subspace  $Z_1$  isomorphic to  $C(\Delta)$ , then there is a subspace  $Z_2 \subset Z_1$  such that  $Z_2$  is isomorphic to  $C(\Delta)$  and complemented in  $Z$ .*

Here we obtain the Pelczynski–Hagler theorem directly by modifying the construction of Lemma 1.

For each  $n$  and dyadic partition  $C_{n1}, \dots, C_{n2^n}$  of  $\Delta^0$ , there are  $2^{2^n}$  different continuous functions  $(\varphi_{nj})_{j=1}^{2^{2^n}}, \varphi_{nj} : \Delta^0 \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  that are constant on  $C_{ni}, i = 1, \dots, 2^n$ . Let  $(\sigma^{(j)})_{j=1}^{2^{2^n}}$  be an enumeration of all possible choices of  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{2^n})$ , where  $\sigma_i = \pm 1$ . We can identify each  $\varphi_{nj}$  with a  $\sigma^{(j)}$  as follows:

$$\varphi_{nj} = \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \sigma_i^{(j)} \chi_{C_{ni}}.$$

These functions are called *Rademacher-type functions*. Recall that Theorem 4 loosely says that if  $X^*$  is nonseparable, then we can construct a copy of  $\Delta^0$  in  $(B^*, \text{weak}^*)$ , and a bounded sequence  $(x_{ni})_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{2^n}$  in  $X$  such that for all  $n, i$ ,  $x_{ni}$  as a function on  $\Delta^0$  approximates  $\chi_{C_{ni}}$ . Consequently, the point  $w_{nj} = \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \sigma_i^{(j)} x_{ni}$  approximates  $\varphi_{nj}$  on  $\Delta^0$ . However, we have no control over the norm of  $w_{nj}$ . The idea in the following is that we can approximate the  $\varphi_{nj}$ 's by a bounded sequence in  $X$  whenever  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$ .

**Lemma 7** [4]. *If  $X$  is a separable Banach space containing  $\ell^1$ , then  $\ell^1(\mathbf{R})$  embeds in  $X^*$ .*

*Proof.* We first show that  $\ell^1(\mathbf{R})$  embeds in  $\ell^\infty$  isometrically. Let  $D$  denote the collection of all  $((I_i, \varepsilon_i) : i \in F)$ , where  $F$  is finite,  $(I_i)_{i \in F}$  are disjoint intervals in  $\mathbf{R}$  with rational endpoints and  $\varepsilon_i = \pm 1$ . Hence,  $D$  is countable and  $\ell^\infty = \ell^\infty(D)$ . Define  $T : \ell^1(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow \ell^\infty(D)$  by

$$T_x((I_i, \varepsilon_i) : i \in F) = \sum_{i \in F} \varepsilon_i \sum_{\alpha \in I_i} x(\alpha).$$

$|T_x((I_i, \varepsilon_i) : i \in F)| \leq \|x\|_1$ , and, if  $x$  has finite support,  $\|T_x\|_\infty = \|x\|_1$ . Hence,  $T$  is an isometry.

Let  $\varepsilon_\lambda$  be the unit basis vector at  $\lambda$  in  $\ell^1(\mathbf{R})$ , and let  $z_\lambda \in \ell^\infty$  be such that  $T(\varepsilon_\lambda) = z_\lambda$ . Let  $S : \ell^1 \rightarrow X$  be an isomorphic embedding such that  $\|S\| \leq 1$ . Then  $S^* : X^* \rightarrow \ell^\infty$  is onto and hence open. Thus, there exists a constant  $M$  and  $x_\lambda^* \in X^*$  such that  $S^*(x_\lambda^*) = z_\lambda$  and  $\|x_\lambda^*\| \leq M$ . We will show that  $(x_\lambda^*)_{\lambda \in \mathbf{R}}$  is isomorphic to the unit vector basis of  $\ell^1(\mathbf{R})$ .

Let  $x_{\lambda_1}^*, \dots, x_{\lambda_n}^*$ , and scalars  $\alpha_{\lambda_1}, \dots, \alpha_{\lambda_n}$  be given. Let  $\delta_p$  denote the  $p$ th unit vector basis of  $\ell^1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} M \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_{\lambda_i}| &\geq \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{\lambda_i} x_{\lambda_i}^* \right\| \geq \sup_p \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{\lambda_i} \langle x_{\lambda_i}^*, S(\delta_p) \rangle \right| \\ &= \sup_p \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{\lambda_i} \langle z_{\lambda_i}, \delta_p \rangle \right| = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{\lambda_i} z_{\lambda_i} \right\|_\infty \\ &= \left\| T \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{\lambda_i} \varepsilon_{\lambda_i} \right) \right\| = \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_{\lambda_i}|. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $X$  be a separable Banach space such that  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$ . Then, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$  that is weak\* homeomorphic to the Cantor set along with subsets  $(C_{n_i})_{n=0}^\infty$  of  $\Delta$  that are weak\* homeomorphic to the dyadic intervals and a bounded sequence  $\{(w_{n_j}) : j = 1, \dots, 2^{2^n}\}_{n=0}^\infty$  in  $X$  such that*

$$|x^*(w_{n_j}) - \varphi_{n_j}(x^*)| < \varepsilon 2^{-n} \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \Delta.$$

*Proof.* Use Lemma 7 to find a norm 1 isomorphism  $T : \ell^1(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow X^*$ . Hence,  $T^* : X^{**} \rightarrow \ell^\infty(\mathbf{R})$  is onto and open. So there exists  $M < \infty$  such that  $T^*(MB^{**})$  covers the unit ball of  $\ell^\infty(\mathbf{R})$ . Let  $(e_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \mathbf{R}}$  be the usual basis for  $\ell^1(\mathbf{R})$ ,  $x_\lambda^* = T(e_\lambda)$  and  $A = (x_\lambda^*)_{\lambda \in \mathbf{R}}$ .

*Claim.* If  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  are uncountable disjoint subsets of  $A$  and if  $\sigma = (\sigma_i)_{i=1}^n$  is such that  $\sigma_i = \pm 1$  for each  $i$ , then for every  $\eta > 0$  there exist uncountable sets  $A'_i \subset A_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) and a point  $w_\sigma$  in  $X$  such that  $\|w_\sigma\| \leq M$  and

$$\left| x^*(W_\sigma) - \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \chi_{A'_i}(x^*) \right| < \eta \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \bigcup_{i=1}^n A'_i.$$

To prove the claim, fix  $\sigma = (\sigma_i)_{i=1}^n$  and define  $z \in \ell^\infty(\mathbf{R})$  by

$$z_\lambda = \begin{cases} \sigma_i & \text{if } x_\lambda^* \in A_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Clearly,  $\|z\| = 1$  and so there exists  $x^{**}$  in  $X^{**}$  with  $\|x^{**}\| \leq M$  such that  $T^*(x^{**}) = z$ . Hence, if  $x_\lambda^* \in A_i$ ,

$$x^{**}(x_\lambda^*) = x^{**}(T(e_\lambda)) = T^*(x^{**})(e_\lambda) = z(e_\lambda) = \sigma_i.$$

Choose  $x_i^*$  to be weak\* condensation points of  $A_i$ , and by weak\* density of  $B$  in  $B^{**}$ , choose  $w_\sigma$  in  $X$  such that  $\|w_\sigma\| \leq M$  and  $|x_i^*(w_\sigma) - \sigma_i| = |x_i^*(w_\sigma) - x^{**}(x_i^*)| < \eta/2$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). Let

$$A'_i = A_i \cup W(x_i^*, w_\sigma, \eta/2).$$

This proves the claim.

To prove the theorem, apply the construction of Lemma 1 to  $A$  with the following change. At each stage, when  $A_{n1}, \dots, A_{n2^n}$  have been chosen, inductively apply the above claim  $2^{2^n}$  times to choose  $w_{nj}$  and uncountable  $B_{ni} \subset A_{ni}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 2^n; j = 1, \dots, 2^{2^n}$ ) with  $\|w_{nj}\| \leq M$  and such that for each of the  $2^{2^n}$  choices of  $\sigma^{(j)}$ ,

$$\left| x^*(w_{nj}) - \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} \sigma_i^{(j)} \chi_{B_{ni}}(x^*) \right| < \varepsilon 2^{-n} \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{2^n} B_{ni}.$$

Then replace each  $A_{ni}$  by  $B_{ni}$  and continue the construction.  $\square$

Let  $\mu \in C(\Delta^0)^*$ . It is clear that  $\|\mu\| = \sup_{n,\sigma} |\mu(\varphi_{n\sigma})|$ . Let  $\Delta$  be the copy of the Cantor set constructed in Theorem 8, and let  $T : X \rightarrow C(\Delta^0)$  be the evaluation map given by  $T(x) = x^*(x)$  for all  $x^* \in \Delta$ . Again, as  $\Delta$  is weak\* homeomorphic to the Cantor set,  $T$  is a continuous linear operator. Let  $T^* : C(\Delta^0)^* \rightarrow X^*$  be the adjoint of  $T$ . If  $\mu \in C(\Delta^0)^*$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|T^*(\mu)\| &= \sup_{x \in B} |T^*(\mu)(x)| \geq \frac{1}{m} \sup_{n,j} |T^*(\mu)(w_{nj})| \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sup_{n,j} \left| \int_{\Delta} x^*(w_{nj}) d\mu \right| \\ &\geq \frac{1}{m} \sup_{n,j} \left[ \left| \int_{\Delta} \varphi_{nj}(x^*) d\mu \right| - \varepsilon 2^{-n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \|\mu\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $T^*$  is an isomorphism of  $C(\Delta^0)^*$  into  $X^*$  and, consequently,  $T$  is an onto map. This yields the following.

**Corollary 9.** *If  $X$  is a separable Banach space such that  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$ , then there exists a continuous linear surjection from  $X$  to  $C(\Delta^0)$ .*

We conclude this paper with

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $X$  be a separable Banach space. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\ell^1$  embeds in  $X$ .
- (ii)  $\ell^1(\Gamma)$  embeds in  $X^*$ , where  $\Gamma$  is some uncountable set.
- (iii) For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a subset  $\Delta$  of  $B^*$ , weak\* homeomorphic to the Cantor set and a bounded sequence  $\{(w_{nj}) : j = 1, \dots, 2^{2^n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  in  $X$  such that for every Rademacher-type function  $\varphi_{nj}$ ,  $|x^*(w_{nj}) - \varphi_{nj}(x^*)| < \varepsilon 2^{-n}$  for all  $x^*$  in  $\Delta$ .
- (iv) There exists a continuous linear surjection from  $X$  to  $C(\Delta^0)$ .

(v) *There exists an isomorphism from  $C(\Delta^0)^*$  into  $X^*$ . Consequently,  $X^*$  contains a bounded  $\varepsilon$ -Rademacher tree.*

*Proof.* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). See Lemma 7.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). The proof of Theorem 8 will clearly work if  $A = (T(e_\lambda))_{\lambda \in \Gamma}$ , where  $(e_\lambda)_\lambda$  is the usual basis for  $\ell^1(\Gamma)$  and  $T$  is a norm 1 isomorphism of  $\ell^1(\Gamma)$  into  $X^*$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Let  $\Delta$ ,  $(w_{nj})$ ,  $(\varphi_{nj})$  be as in statement (iii). A natural subsequence of the Rademacher type functions  $(\varphi_{nj})$  is the sequence of Rademacher functions  $(r_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  defined by  $r_n = \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} (-1)^{i+1} \chi_{C_{ni}}$  for all  $n$ . Let  $(z_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  be the subsequence of  $(w_{nj})$  that approximates the  $r_n$ 's, i.e., such that  $|x^*(z_n) - r_n(x^*)| < \varepsilon 2^{-n}$  for all  $x^* \in \Delta$ . It suffices to show that  $(z_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is isomorphic to the usual  $\ell^1$ -basis.

Let  $M$  be such that  $\|z_n\| \leq M < \infty$ , and let  $(\alpha_i)_{i=1}^k$  be a finite sequence of scalars. Then

$$M \sum_{i=1}^k |\alpha_i| \geq \left\| \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i z_i \right\| = \sup_{x^* \in B^*} \left| \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x^*(z_i) \right| \geq \sup_{x^* \in \Delta} \left| \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x^*(z_i) \right|.$$

Choose  $x^*$  in the appropriate  $C_{kj}$  to ensure  $x^*(z_i)\alpha_i > |\alpha_i|/2$  for all  $i$ . Hence,  $M \sum_{i=1}^k |\alpha_i| \geq \left\| \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i z_i \right\| > (1/2) \sum_{i=1}^k |\alpha_i|$ .

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv). See Corollary 9.

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (v). It is easy to see that  $(\lambda_{ni})_{n=0}^\infty$  defined at the beginning of this paper forms a bounded 1-Rademacher tree in  $C(\Delta^0)^*$ . If  $T$  is a surjection from  $X$  to  $C(\Delta^0)$ , then  $T^*$  is an isomorphism from  $C(\Delta^0)^*$  into  $X^*$ . Clearly, isomorphic images of  $\varepsilon$ -Rademacher trees are  $\varepsilon'$ -Rademacher trees and, hence,  $X^*$  contains a bounded  $\varepsilon'$ -Rademacher tree.

(v)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Since  $\ell^1(\Delta)$  embeds in  $C(\Delta^0)^*$ , it must also embed in  $X^*$ .  $\square$

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